

## **CLAIM AMENDMENTS:**

1. (currently amended) A grounding terminal fitting made of a unitary conductive plate material stamped out into a specified shape, comprising:

~~a main body~~ first panel having a bolt hole form therethrough;

a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the ~~main body~~ first panel; and

a wire connection portion extending from an extending end of the coupling and configured for crimped connection with a wire;

a second panel joined unitarily to the first panel along a fold line and folded into substantially face-to-face engagement with the first panel such that the first and second panels define a main body, the second panel having a bolt hole registered with the bolt hole of the first panel;

a reinforcing plate extending unitarily from the second panel and lying in substantially face-to-face engagement with the coupling that extends from the first panel such that the reinforcing plate is between the main body and the wire connection portion; and

~~wherein the coupling has reinforcing means formed by folding at least one reinforcing plate from the main body into contact with the coupling and at least one fastener folded from the coupling into engagement with a surface of the reinforcing plate facing away from the coupling, whereby the reinforcing plate reinforces the coupling without impeding crimping of the wire connection portion into connection with a wire.~~

2. (currently amended) The grounding terminal fitting of claim 1, wherein the at least one fastener is folded at lateral edges of the coupling.

3. (currently amended) The grounding terminal fitting of claim 2, wherein the coupling is formed with side walls standing up along lateral edges thereof.

4. (currently amended) The grounding terminal fitting of claim 3, wherein at least one of the side walls and the fastener are substantially continuous with each other along the lateral edges of the coupling.

5. (currently amended) The grounding terminal fitting of claim 4, wherein the wire connection portion is a barrel with a bottom plate substantially continuous with the coupling and crimping pieces standing up from lateral edges of the bottom plate, the crimping pieces and the side walls being substantially continuous with each other along the lateral edges of the coupling.

6. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The grounding terminal fitting made of a  
~~conductive plate material stamped out into a specified shape, comprising:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a main body;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the main body, of~~  
claim 1, wherein the coupling being is formed with a narrow reinforcing rib extending substantially along an extending direction of the coupling; and

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a wire connection portion extending from an extending end of the~~  
~~coupling;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ wherein the coupling has reinforcing means formed by folding at least one~~  
~~reinforcing plate.~~

7. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The grounding terminal fitting made of a  
~~conductive plate material stamped out into a specified shape, comprising:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a main body;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the main body; and~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ a wire connection portion extending from an extending end of the~~  
coupling;

~~\_\_\_\_\_ wherein the coupling has reinforcing means formed by folding at least one~~  
~~flat reinforcing plate, and wherein the at least one flat reinforcing plate is placed on the~~  
~~coupling, of claim 1, wherein~~ the coupling and the reinforcing plate having displacement  
preventing means engaged with each other for preventing displacements of the  
coupling and the reinforcing plate along a thickness direction and displacements along  
directions parallel to facing surfaces thereof.

8. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A terminal fitting of claim 7, wherein the  
displacement preventing means includes an engaging hole and an engaging projection,  
~~the~~ made of a conductive plate material stamped out into a specified shape, comprising:

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a main body;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the main body; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a wire connection portion extending from an extending end of the~~  
coupling; and

~~\_\_\_\_\_ an engaging hole being formed in one of the coupling and the reinforcing~~  
plate in an area where the reinforcing plate is placed on the coupling, an engaging  
projection formed in the other of the coupling and reinforcing plate and engaged with the  
engaging hole for preventing displacements of the coupling in the reinforcing plate along  
a thickness direction and displacements along direction parallel to facing surfaces  
thereof.

9. (currently amended) The terminal fitting of claim 8, wherein the engaging projection is formed ~~on the other of the coupling and the reinforcing plate~~ to project to a side where the coupling and the reinforcing plate contact each other and at a position for engaging the engaging hole.

10. (previously presented) The terminal fitting of claim 9, wherein the engaging projection has a height longer than the depth of the engaging hole, a leading end of the engaging projection projecting out from the engaging hole to define a projecting portion pressed into contact with an opening edge of the engaging hole in the thickness direction.

11. (currently amended) The grounding terminal fitting of claim 7, wherein the displacement preventing means include at least one cut and at least one fastener.

12. (currently amended) ~~The A~~ terminal fitting of ~~claim 11~~, made of a conductive plate material stamped out into a specify shape, comprising:

a main body;

a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the main body;

a wire connection portion extending from an extending end of the coupling;

a reinforcing means formed by folding at least one reinforcing plate so that the at least a portion of the reinforcing plate is placed on the coupling, the coupling and the reinforcing plate having displacement preventing means engaged with each other for preventing displacements of the coupling and the reinforcing plate along a thickness direction and displacements along directions parallel to facing surfaces thereof, the

displacement preventing means including at least one cut and at least one fastener,  
wherein the cut is formed by cutting off an edge of one of the coupling and the reinforcing plate and has two edges substantially facing each other along a longitudinal direction.

13. (previously presented) The terminal fitting of claim 12, wherein the fastener is on the other of the coupling and the reinforcing plate and is crimped into contact with a surface adjacent the cut for holding the coupling and the reinforcing plate at a position adjacent the cut, and opposite edges of the fastener contacting the opposite edges of the cut.

14. (previously presented) The terminal fitting of claim 7, further comprising return preventing means in the main body for holding the terminal fitting assembled with a second terminal fitting.

15. (previously presented) The terminal fitting of claim 14, wherein the return preventing means includes a return preventing hole in one of the terminal fittings and a return preventing projection at the other thereof, each return preventing projection being formed by cutting and bending and opposite ends of a cut side of each return preventing projection being coupled to the main body.

16. (previously presented) A terminal fitting assembly, comprising:  
a first terminal fitting having a first main body, a coupling extending from an outer peripheral edge of the first main body, and a first wire connection portion extending from an extending end of the coupling, the coupling having reinforcing means formed by folding at least one reinforcing plate, the first main body having a layered structure formed by folding a single plate substantially continuous with the reinforcing

plate to have a first thickness, a first lock standing up by a selected distance from the outer peripheral edge of the first main body;

a second terminal fitting having second main body with a second thickness and a second lock standing up from an outer peripheral edge of the second main body by a distance substantially equal to the thickness of the first main body; and

the first terminal fitting being assembled with the second terminal fitting so that the second main body is held between the first main body and the first lock and the first main body is held between the second main body and the second lock.

17. (previously presented) The terminal fitting of claim 16, wherein the at least one reinforcing plate is folded at lateral edges of the coupling.

18. (previously presented) The terminal fitting of claim 17, wherein the coupling is formed with side walls standing up along lateral edges thereof.

19. (previously presented) The terminal fitting of claim 18, wherein the side walls and the reinforcing plates are substantially continuous with each other along the lateral edges of the coupling.

20. (previously presented) The terminal fitting of claim 19, wherein the wire connection portion is a barrel with a bottom plate substantially continuous with the coupling and crimping pieces standing up from lateral edges of the bottom plate, the crimping pieces and the side walls being substantially continuous with each other along the lateral edges of the coupling.